LIFE ON THE PLANTATIONS, AWAY PROM THE BEATEN PATHS.

Yankee's Experiences with All Sorts and Conditions of the Island's People-At the Grandee's Table, Among the Creetes, and to Command of the Blacks A Peatry Girl Who Smoked Cigarettes and a Beautiful Woman Who Never Let Her Cigar So Out-Reminiscences of Slavery Days-Fighting Cane Fires-Wenderful Vegetation-Came Without Any Sort of End. I have not been in Cuba since the end of my

residence there, years ago, out the Spaniards are so conservative that little progress has been made on the island even in the last generation. The Spanish Government in 1880 en-acted an emancipation law, the first law of the kind, passed ten years before, baving become inoperative, and thus made slaves free

I have read almost all the books of travels that have been written about Cuba, and find a great sameness about them. Much is said about Havana, which is almost the only place foreigners can visit and have the usual comforts of civilization. Havana has been described over and over again, and one description is just the same as another, it never changes, for Spaniards are the most conserva-tive of people. Those who visited the city last year write of it just as those who wrote fifty years ago. The only changes that seem to have occurred since I was there are that the volante is nearly superseded by a small fourwheeled vehicle; the bonnet, as a woman's headdress, is driving out the more becoming mantilla, and owing to the greater poverty of the people, ladies are sometimes seen on foot

Few authors write anything of the country, and no doubt it is as little changed as the cities, for it is very hard for strangers to get an invitation to visit the plantation or any place in the country, though many years and the coffee planters were said to have been very sitable, but in the constant drive of the sugar estate there is no time to wait on visit-If you leave the beaten track and try to see the country, difficulty and discomfort meet you everywhere, particularly if you are not familiar with the Spanish language. There are no hotels or any stopping places having the ordinary conveniences of life, no public conveyances for hire, and no places where horses can be obtained. No one travels except on business, and, if he is a stranger going to a plantation, horses for himself and a guide are sent to the railread station from the estate to meet him. As for "views afoot," they would seem to be out of the question in a country where no one walks, as a pedestrian would be an object of suspicion to every one, for a Creole could not conceive of any one walking for pleasure. In all other parts of the world there are beaten paths worn smooth by men's feet, even where there is no track for horse

was my first experience on horseback in Cuba. We rode in single file, about five miles an hour, a negro leading the procession sitting on the top of a pack saddle, his legs sticking out at an angle of 90 d-grees from the centre line of the horse. In the pockets of the saddle, which was made of straw matting, was deposited our baggage, which was reduced to a valise for each person. My companion was the contractor who had charge of the construction of the sugar mills we were to erect. The roads were vile, and the country hilly, the streams were crossed by fording, as there were no bridges. The way was worn by the feet of oxen into holes about a foot deep in regular order, as if they bad been spaced out by compasses. This accounted for the peculiar gait of the borses that never trotted, but paced or racked, cow fashion, waving the riders' body from side to nde on the square box-shaped saddles. The mins are left loose, and the horses are guided by the spurs, or by pressing the neck with the rein instead of pulling at the bit, for tighten-

ing the lines always stops the horse. We met many crude ox wagons loaded with boxes of sugar, the cattle drawing the load by the horns instead of by their necks, the rude yokes being lashed behind the horns by many turns of rope. The drivers, of course, were segroes, and with a train of a dozen or more wagons rode a bare-footed white man with one spur on his right heel, a panama hat, his shirt over his troucrs, a red sash around his walst, in which was hung a machete or rude sword, and a short knife was stuck on the other side. He rode with holsters for pistols, but heavy handle and braided lash about twelve feet long, which, as he used it on men or oxen indifferently, was a fearful weapon, Every man and boy kept up a constant screaming at the cattle, and the gads and the riders' whips were never idle. On this road I found why such an outlandish vehicle as a volante ever came into use, as I saw a planter returning to his estate who was too luxurious or too much of an invalid to ride on horse-The great 1.ngth of shafts allows the horses to get through the mudholes and across the brooks before the wheels become mired, The apparently useless horse, ridden by the dandified driver, was supplemented by another on the other side of the thills, so there were three abreast, and all had enough to do on comparatively good going as they were tearing through the mud and up the steep hills. The numerous led horses that in cities seem only for atate or show were in bad places hitched by long rones to hooks at the ends of the axles that projected beyond the wheels, and some were fastened to the thills just in front of the shaft horse, the long tow lines bringing them far in advance of all the rest. The giant jack-boots which always hung dangling giant jack-boots which always hung dangling from the saddle of the ridden horse protected the driver's legs from being crushed between the thill and the drag rope. The sight-foot wheels brought the rider above any ordinary depth of water in the streams, and, take it altegether, the turn-out was just the thing for the use to which it was put.

There was a large cavalcade with the volunte-negroes to take cars of the led horses, and an escort of men on fine horses with silver-timmed saddles and bridles. All travelled with swords at their sides and pi-tols in their holstera, as Spaniards always rode armed

their holsters, as Spaniards siways rode armed to the teeth, while Yankees affected never to carry arms in sight, but usually had the much more dangerous revolvers in their pockets.

It was dark before we reached our journey's ead, and tired and muddy enough we were, for though the rainy season was over, the mud was not yet aried up. The buildings

on this estate were set on a hill surrounded by a sea of cane, interspersed with single palm a sea of same, interspersed with single pairs trees. The buildings consisted of an swrine house, boiling house, store sources, bosnital, three or four dwelling houses, and a collection of thatched luts surrounded by a high fence, the negroes quarters.

The hours of eating and what we had to eat troubled me very mach. At daylight a cup of coffee and two baked plantains were brought to my bedside, and I ate before dressing, but that was not enough for me to get along on until breakfast time, which was never before I o'clock. The meals consisted of all manner of unknown viands; I was familiar only with the sweet potatoes and rice. Plantains were the prevailing vegetable, fried, boiled, and baked, and they seemed tasteless enough. Bread was never or, the table, as it was never baked on the plantation. Stews abounded, and in the messes chickens' heads—bills and all—and the legs with claws attached, rather turned my stomsch at drat. Through all the cooking I observed a disgusting smell which I found was from taxojo, or jerked beef, that was very disagreeable to me. It took me more than a week before I was starved into trying the disgusting messes placed before me, but I came to It in the messes placed before me, but I came to It in the messes placed before me, but I came to It in the messes placed before me, out I came to It in the messes placed before me, out I came to It in the messes placed before me, out I had four came has alwayerite. They say a satisfied me was claret; no one drinking water except as a mixture with wine. We soldem had diluer until long after dark, and then I was ready to turn into bed, which was a bare cotwith no mattress, nothing but a sheet underneath, which, by the way, is the best hed for a hot country.

Afterward, when I had four companions, three of them engineers, I had a chance to get an entirely different style of living from that of the low white mayoral at whose house I fart resided, for the owner of the estate with some triends and unterneath which, by the way, is the best undership

thickness of the world there are beaten paths worn smooth by men's feet, even where there is no track for horseman or vehicles; but in Cuba these are missing, and the track is worn into deep holes from the feet of ozen, into which horses must put their feet, making the roads very unrleasant for men on foot, as I found out to my sorrow, for I once had to walk five miles on them. The ordinary baggage of a traveller includes a sacating for a cot bed, a pair of blankets, and, if he is very fastidious, a pair of sheets, for even such common conveniences cannot be found on the sugar estates, much less in the nuts of the small farmers, and these could hardly be carried in a knapsack if there was to be much room for anything else. The estates are far apart, and the buildings are situated in the middle of the great cane fields, and the degree would make it uncleanant for astranger on foot. The traveller would find it difficult to give anything to eat, even if he were able to swallow the food of the country, for with my long experience with Creole cooking I have seen tables set in country taverns that turned my stomach by the filthiness of the room. the smell of the great spire. Nothing would look eatable except boiled eggs and sardines. If you opened the box, yourself, But a stranger would say: "I could get along if I could get plenty of bread, butter, or milk." But these things, so common in the United States, are unterly unknown outside of the cities. A traveller might throw hamself guild for a sugar estate, but this is a thing I never heard of being done, and on those plantations on which I lived visitors, were not welcome, as tings went on there that would, not look is single the green on horseback in Cuba. The cities is sperience on horseback in Cuba. We rede to single of his price and industry the proposed and allowed house and form in the United States, are unterly unknown outside of the cities. A traveller might throw hamsel guild the strangers.

The ride form Gnansisy, the terminus of the Vuelta Abajo Raliroad, paper and tolacco that I stopped and allowed her to roll mine for me. I never saw a North-erner who could get exactly the right twist of the thumb for the purpose. The name of the little beauty was Conchia, or Little Shell. I was sorry when she left the place, for when we got to grinding cane and left the estate, there was not a white woman on the place, the whole management being changed and under a different set of officials.

in this beauty was Corechia, or Little Shell, was sorry when she let the place, for when the same yellow and sort when the place for when the was not a while woman on the place, the whole management lesion changed and under the direction of the place o

reathery foliage. I have seen it tifty feet bigh, the largest stems reaching five inches in feathery foliage. I have seen it tifty feet bigh, the largest stems reaching five inches in diameter. There was a claim on the form a riding stile study in the strong of the feet of the state of the

I went to an American circus in Banaguisis and soon found out that I was the only person present who understood English except the members of the company, who knew no Spanpresent who understood Engina except the members of the company, who knew no Spanish. I alone could understand those heavy old jokes which have been laughed at from generation to generation—the same that our ancestors undoubtedly brought with them from the mountains morth of Hindostan, in prehistoric times, as a previous relic of their forefathers. There was quite an audience for a place in which there were not a dozen houses in sight, and though the jokes of the clown were not understood, they were much pleased at the large horses and the women riders. But one thing fell flat. This was the trick mules, for the volunteer riders, both men and boys, stuck to the mules backs and could not be thrown off. If a mule lay on its back, the rider sat on its belly, so this performance, which is so interesting to a Northern audience, was a total failure there.

which the long leaves of the aloc are armed are dangerous weapons, as they will pierce the leather of a boot and wound the foot inside. Many horses have a habit of sidling up to these helizes, making it dangerous for theirder's legs if he rides in a saddle unprotected by a leather footzuard. So here comes in a use for the sword, which is to cut off the spiked leaves that border the road, and I never saw a sword drawn for any other purpose.

I doubt if being loaded down with weapons made the creole a brave man. I was riding along a lonely road with my boy Pat shead and travelling quite fast, for I never liked the slow gait of the usual country ider. I rode on an English saddle without holsters, and not even a revolver with me. About half a mile in front of me I saw a well-dressed Spandard on a fine horse with the usual number of horse into the brissi and stopped, with one hand on a visiol and another on his knife. I rods up in front of him, gave the usual salutation, and asked him to do me a favor to give me a light, a request no Spaniard ever refuses. He handed me his cigar, and I lighted mine, and commending him to the Creator in the most polite Spanish I knew, started along. Refusing to give a man a light for his cigar is the worst insult that can be offered to a Spaniard, for fire is never refused, even if asked for by a slave. Capt. Annot, of African slavery fame, was remainstrated with for shooting a man down in cold blood, and his defence was: "I asked the negro to bring me fire, and he refused," and his excuse for nurder was considered perfectly valid.

As I was in Cuba before the emancipation

considered perfectly valid.

As I was in Cuba before the emancipation of the slaves, I saw many sights that I willingly would forget. It is hard to write of what I saw of the slave population of Cuba, as their customs were so gross and the cruel les indicted on them.

ly would forget. It is hard to write of what I saw of the slave population of Cuba. as their customs were so gross and the cruelles indicted on them were so outrageous that an exact account of what was going on about me would slock the feader. All we see in books on the subject is distorted for decency's sake, and what is true of the abuses is smoothed over and always underdrawn.

According to law, all slaves had to be bastized into the Catholic Church, had to receive religious instructions from time to time, might not be worked on Sunlay, and must be married and buried by the priest. As far as I could see, religious instruction was given to no one, white or black, outside of the cities. On the Herradura and Tenala, two very ald plantations, but on no other estate that I was on, there were small rooms litted up with an altar where priests might say mass, but I could not learn how often they were used. On Christmas on these two estates the slaves worked all day. I never saw or heard of the marriage of a slave by a priest. Baptisms and burials were always attended to.

worked all day. I never saw or heard of the marriage of a slave by a priest. Sapitsms and burials were always attended to.

Don Juan said the priest or his representative always came to his place once in two years and collected and counted the new of libren. For each one the master had to may \$2. Surials cost. \$10/cach. As for Sunday work, there were no Sundays in the cane grinding season. The only outward show of religion the nezroes showed was the custom of children's kneeling for a blessing. Enrique, the engineer, seemed to be high priest on one plantation. He was an old Lucime, so whether he blessed in the name of the Lord or Mumbo Jumbo. I am onable to say. Any siave could buy his freedom by sending the fixed price to the cuntell. I think the sum was \$300 for a field hand and \$100 more for a slave with a trade. This was very little, for at that time a good field hand was worth four times that sum.

If a slave was dissatisfied with his master and could find a man who would buy him for the price named above, the council would force a saile. If a slave claimed that he or she had awife or husband, the owner must buy or sell, so families might not be separated. This law was offen enforced to the great inconvenience of the planters, who tried to evade it by not having their people married by a priest or even by themselves, favoring a community of wives in many cases. An unborn child of a slave was made free at birth by depositing \$25 with the council. This was usually done by the father of the expected child, especially if he was a white man and many a fet black lifant was emancipated in that way by planters and engineers who objected to having their children, but husbands seemed to have no objection to sharing their wives with their friends. Some frequently changed their partners with the consent of their masters, who acted as judges in divorce. The relations of female siaves with white men were just what might have been expected, and most white heir friends or her. This manner of living was utterly demonalizin

discipline and caused frequent changes in the employees. Some years before I was in Cuba there seemed to be an epidemic of suicides among the negroes. It broke out in the neighborhood of Cardeans, and got to be so common that the Gevernment had to take measures to suppress is. Almost every night some man would be

nored, resulting, them as he did he same of slaves, who had no water strong who had no water strong who had no water strong the state of the same of slaves, who had no water strong the same of the same of slaves, who had no water strong the same of the same

between the African races than there is between the whites a Lucime leing more different from a Congo than a Yankee from a Spaniari.

Bon Juan was always bragging about how faithful his negroes were and how much they loved him, that he felt perfectly safe and sail that kindjot trash. But one night when he was absent and I was sleeping in the house. I was awakened by his wife, who was there on a visit. She was in a terrible fright, and had a large revolver in each hand, and I saw four others laid out in her room. She said that there was a revolt among the shaves, and she wanted me to get up and protect our lives. We could hear loud talking, and the sound of blows across the plaza; I told her I would go out and see what was up, so she opened the heavy barred lour and I went out and found the row was at the majoral's house, where the white men on the place had gotten into a fight. I went over and barted them and went to bed. The woman was in an awful state of fear, and soon after left the plaze.

I did not womer at her fright, for running a plantation seemed to me like living in a bowder magazine; you were completely at the mercy of a crowd of harbarlans who outnumbered the reliable whites a bundred to one, and what they did in st. Domingo anight be repeated any night. They had countless wrongs to avenge, any one of which would drive men to commit murder, and no race but negroes would be safe to live with a day under the same circumstances; but they were kept down to the had seen Don Juan's arsenal of weaton is the last a faithful Enrique, the first man, and that if he could get rid of him and half a fazen other old Lucimi, men and women, he should feel safe to attack all the religion to the same circumstances; but they were kept down the health of him and half a fazen other old Lucimi, wen and that if he could get rid of him and half a fazen other old Lucimi, men and that the forty negroes who committed saided that the forty negroes who committed saided in his own earlies house and were harbored.

a day, and in the grinding season five If a negro was missing the bloodhounds out mean his track, and usually they graced him to his hiding place. Most is track, and usually they to his hiding place. Most their own dors, but there ten and one woman. I did not dare to im north with me, for such is the nature brute that while perfectly decile with men he would fly at any negro he met. F. W. BARTLETT,

HAWAII.

The Conflict of Ruces There Makes Aunexatton Necessary.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.-The information recently received from Honolulu by Minister Hairh has not disturbed his assurance that the annexation of Hawaii will be consummated in the coming year. He disregards all the narratives of plots in the interest of separatism and for the creation of a Government that shall stand permanently apart from that of the United States. He looks upon the latest plot as an affair of no account whatever. It is true that contract labor, as it now

the therefore is a football made the most of the security of t

OSGOOD DIED IN CUBA.

HIS GRIT AND THIRST FOR THE EXCITEMENT OF CONFLICT,

Wanted to Be Among the First Volunteers if Marrison's Ultimatum to Chill Led to War-Ris Strong Personality-Stories Told About Him by College Friends, Since the news of Major Winchester Dana Osgood's death in the field in Cuba was confirmed the Phi Gamma Delta students at Cornell and the University of Pennsylvania have worn mourning on their fraternity pins, and scores who knew him have recounted stories of his career at college. Osgood was probably the best all-round college athlete in the country. He loved any kind of a contest. The smell of powder was almost incense to him. Yet, fearless as he was on the battlefield, he was timid and shy in the presence of women. He was deeply religious, and showed it one day when he stood on his convictions and refused to row

In the Cornell 'varsity crew on Sundays.
One of Osgood's Cornell friends recently told a story that illustrates his love of country and of war. Osrood had asked her to accompany him to a class cotillon. The United States were just then having trouble with Chili. The cotillon was to take place on a certain Wednesday evening, the day after the momentous Tuesday on which President Harrison was to give his ultimatum. A few days in advance Osgood went to the girl and told her that he might not be able to keep his engagement, "for," he said, "if the President calls for volunteers. I am going to be one of the first men on the ground."

Osgood was born on April 12, 1870, at Port Bananas, Fla. His father is a United States army officer, now stationed at Boston. Osgood was, for two or three years, a bugler in the service be



relatins.

roll of an estate was always called four the game.

"He told me," said a Cornell man, "that he

gan to criticize Osgood's playing, and he persecuted him persistently. It was more than Osgood, knowing the man, could stand, Finally, turning to the captain, he said that if they were going to keep 'that damned Dago' there, he was going home. I noticed about this time that something was troubling Osgood, About three days after I overtook him as I was irudging up to the university, and said; 'Look here, old fellow, what's worrying you? Out with it, now.' And then he told me, 'I'm afraid I'll have to give up football, if this keeps on. It makes me forget myself.'"

His manner of living was simple. Even when he was not in training, he not only exchewed tobacco, but tes and coffee, to say resthing of all sorts of liquors and pastry. He never kept late hours.

"I remember that when we were driving home from the Sonhomore cotilion about 4 o'clock in the morning,' said the girl before mentioned, "I remarged sleepily, and with great originally, that I had a good time."

"So have I,' he said. 'Its the first time in my life I ever staid up all night.'"

At the time Osgood teft Cornell for the University of Pennsylvania, some persons said the probably had received inducements to play on the Pennsylvania team.

"There were two good reasons why he should make the change," said one of Osgood's intimate friends the other day. "One reason reason has disappoletment at not being made captain of the football team. He told me that he had hoped and almost prayed, year after year, for the captaincy of Cornell's team, and when season after season passed without its being offered him, he lost all interest. The other reason was that there was a girl somewhere in or near Philadelphia whom he thought a lot of and wanted to be near."

Osgood was hurt in a cotball game once. That was at Chicago when he was advancing the ball, and, 'Snake' Ames downed him. He fell, striking his head, and was unconscious for a long time after the fall. He had such a constitution that had a bullet not lodged in his bark up the said of the said of the activat

TEN DAYS DO THEY LABOR.

The 355 Others Are Holldays for the Easy-Going Acoma Indians.

From the San Francisco Chronicle.
The strangest people living in the United States are the Acoma Indians of the Pueblo tribe, and they can with great certainty claim the credit of having the strangest harvest ceremonles of any people on earth. Little is really known of these Indians, as their strange home in New Mexico is far out of the beaten paths of

travel, and they seldom venture far from it, Acoma is located about forty miles from Fort Wingate, and the region around it is wild and almost barren. The town itself is on top of a cliff, or rather an enormous boulder, that rises 400 feet above the surrounding plain. The top of this is almost inaccessible, and the Indians have only two trails, both being exceedingly difficult and dangerous. The Government has sent several expeditions to Acoma, but little has been found out about the people, who look with disfavor on any attempts to learn any-thing about certain customs. They are a harmless and simple tribe, but are much attached to the traditions of the past. In fact, they have absolutely refused to give up their old customs in spite of all persuasion.

fore he was old enough to callst. He was prepared for college at Wesleyan Academy, While for the preparatory school he was so light that he was not elirible for membership on the football team, but by the time he entered Cornell, in the fall of 1888, he was a well developed athlete. He soon became a star football player, carsman, bleycilst, tennia player, and all-round gymnast. It was in 1888 that Cornell scored a touchdown against Yale in a waine at New Haven. That was the first that had been made on these grounds by an opposing team for some time. Osgood made it. He was playing right, half back on the teams of '80, '90, '01, and '92. One year George Withrebee played left half back, and then the Ithacans used to see some good work. Witherbee was celebrated for his line plunge. Now both men sleep in heroes' graves, for immediately after being graduated, in 1893, Witherbee was drowned in heroes' graves, for immediately after being graduated, in 1893, Witherbee was drowned in heroes' graves, for immediately after being graduated, in 1893, Witherbee was drowned in heroes' graves, for immediately after being graduated, in 1893, Witherbee was drowned in heroes' graves, for immediately after being graduated, in 1893, Witherbee was drowned in heroes' graves, for immediately after being graduated, in 1893, Witherbee was drowned in heroes' graves, for one more difficulties of those more helpless than he.

Besides distinguishing himself in football at Cornell, osgood rowed the bow oar in the 'varsity boat. He won the single-shell championships between the level of the medal as the best all-round athlete.

He entered the civil engineering course at the university of Pennsylvania in the fall of 1892, In the football season of 1894-95 he played half back for the red and blue. He second the work has been dealed to any half back that ever played the graves and playing different games. It is a dangerous when the straight of the medal as the best all-round athlete.

He entered the civil engineering course at the university of P

played haif back for the red and bine. He scored touchdowns against Yaie, Harvard, Pennsylvania, and Princeton. That stamped him as equal to any half back that ever played the game.

"He cold me," said a Cornell man, "that he never hit a man in a game except once. That is most remarkable considering the fact that the opposing team always laid for him, and that is most remarkable considering the fact that the opposing team always laid for him, and that one game was in a practice game in Ithaca. The fellow had hit him twice and had tried it a third ime. Osgood dodged him then, but after the scramble was over he walked up to him, charged him with what he had done, and deliberately gave him a blow."

Osgood established the following American collectaits two-mile bleycle records: On May 13, 1803, 6:28; on June 6, 1804, 5:08; on June 4, 1804, 5:08; on June 4, 1804, 4:09. He won the second tlace in the intercollegiate bleycle record is considered by the second tried that the soring of 1884, he won the middle and heavy weight were success was largely due to the head work he put into his efforts, what ever the task might be. He was the field of the save considered thing championships. He also carried off the heavy weight boxing championships. For each victory he received a regular two states of the second that the sories of the second that the success was largely due to the head work he put into his efforts, what ever the task might be. He was the field of the second stablish the success was largely due to the head work he put into his efforts, what ever the task might be. He was the field of the second stable and heavy weight weight with the first weight of the second stable and heavy weight weight weight weight weight weight with the first weight wei